

## BILL BURKE HERE - AS CHARMING WIDOW

Her Portrayal of "Mrs. Dot" Pleases Large Audience.

## OWN CONSTRUCTION IS PUT UPON LINES

Good Support Given Her in Maugham's Clever Comedy.

M. H. McINTYRE.

When a woman wants any particular thing very, very much, and makes her mind to have it, she usually succeeds.

This is the theory held by the author of "Mrs. Dot," which made its first appearance in Washington last night at the National, and so long as Bill Burke is chosen to illustrate this theory no one is skeptical enough to doubt the correctness of the premise.

This fascinating young woman has in the past three years secured a warm place for herself in the hearts of the American theater-going public, matinee girls, et al., and her role of Mrs. Dot bids fair to strengthen her in that position.

Her Interpretation.

Whether Mr. Maugham in writing the comedy had any idea that the leading role would be given the sort of interpretation that it has received, does not matter in the least to the admirers of Miss Burke.

It is barely possible that in writing the lines he had an inkling that the charming widow he pictured would be a worldly-wise shrewd sort of person, the typical widow, in fact. If so his illusion has been rudely shattered, for Miss Burke has her own ideas on the subject and has injected her own personality into the role and given her own construction to the lines, and there rank heresy, after seeing her, even to those who think that any other conception of the part could compare with it.

In this new comedy Mr. Maugham has not disappointed. Like Penelope, the last of his comedies seen in Washington, there is nothing particularly noticeable save a wealth of clean humor, bright dialogue, and a very pleasing plot, which is a pleasing combination. It has a very English atmosphere without any exaggerations.

Comedy's Plot.

Mrs. Dot is a rich widow, very rich, in fact, thanks to a popular brand of beer and a former husband who prior to his demise manufactured the aforementioned beverage. For some reason which at times she can satisfactorily explain and at other times cannot herself understand, she is much in love with Gerald Halstone, at first a wealthy capitalist, younger son or something of the sort, but later by the death of several "obstacles" a part of the "poorage."

Unfortunately he is engaged, and while neither he nor his fiancée are anxious to see the engagement and in a wedding, the mother-in-law, who is, and he refuses to seek his freedom even after Mrs. Dot's proposal. Then the determined little widow makes up her mind to break off the engagement and her successful efforts furnish the complications for the subsequent comedy.

To accomplish her purpose she uses her cousin to make love to the girl and makes desperate love to the girl and stir up jealousy in the man she wants. Of course she succeeds and an elopement clears up all the difficulties.

Miss Burke's Work.

In her portrayal of the widow, Miss Burke is the same charming lugubrious well remembered in "Love Watches." Vivacious and fascinating, at times she is more like a kitten of seventeen than a young widow, but a thing of whims, a veritable April day always, and so thoroughly satisfactory personally that even if she did not do the good work as an actress that she does it would be forgiven her.

Good as the comedy is, and excellent as is the work of some of the members of the cast, Miss Burke dominates, and it is of her one thinks afterward and the Mrs. Dot she creates, not the one that might have been.

Others in Cast.

Julian L'Estrange as Gerald Halstone looks the part of a stage lover and gives the impression that he would be most acceptable if only his opportunities were not so limited.

The only fault to be found in his work lies in a tendency to overdo his part a bit now and then and a lack of clearness in his enunciation. This is very noticeable at the very outset and is accentuated by the fact that in the first act his part of the dialogue is carried on with his face turned from the footlights and the impression of the indistinctness of his words carries through the performance. He has a delightful English accent and an engaging personality.

As Freddy Perkins, a sort of English valet, Percy Hallam does excellent work save for an occasional too zealous work to get a laugh. Ann Meredith portrays very faithfully the role of Nellie Schreiner, a shallow girl engaged to one man and in love with another. The rest of the cast is uniformly good, including Annie Esmond as Lady Sellenger.

The play is well staged and the gowns worn by Miss Burke and the other women in the cast are "dreams."

**GAYETY—Sam A. Scribner's Big Show.** "Sam A. Scribner's Big Show," the attraction at the Gayety Theater this week, stands out as a real treat of burlesque shows. It is a world of new points and proves interesting from start to finish.

Daisy Harcourt, billed as the English comedienne, is the feature of the performance. Her songs and costumes scored a hit. Gordon Zeno and Hayden brothers follow themselves young men who can sing, dance, play on various kinds of musical instruments and tell funny stories.

The burlesque consists of a three-act musical farce, which is called "Oh, You Woman." Sam Sidman, with his German dialect and grotesque make-up, is the principal comedian. He is ably assisted by Michael McDonald. Miss May Page as Mile. Fifi Chiffon, a French model, is particularly good.

## MISS DRESSLER PLEASES IN "TILLIE'S NIGHTMARE"

Old Favorite Makes Hit as Star in New and Humorous Play—Good Music and Clever Lines Feature Production.

"Tillie's Nightmare" at the Belasco Theater is just as unreasonably funny as a dream ought to be, and Marie Dressler, who has long been a favorite with Washington audiences, is just as big and droll as ever. So Miss Dressler, plus an exceedingly clever book of lyrics and a tamed score, not to overlook a whole rose garden of pretty girls, and a musical support above the average, makes the sum total of a mighty clever show.

Tillie Blobs, the drudge of a Skineatles N. Y. boarding house, by reason of overindulgence in the lurid New York newspaper supplements and prunes, yawned in the first act and casually remarked after reading of aeroplanes, broadcloth suits with silver coats, and ocean-going yachts, "If I had three or four million dollars, you bet I'd have two hats, a swell Sunday gown, and fresh eggs for breakfast."

Now that may have been a modest wish, but when Tillie's brain got to work in her dream she started the large audience off with her in a series of laughs and clever songs which covered all the territory between Skineatles, New York, and Paris.

In Tillie's dream everything came true. Alone on the streets of New York, where she wandered imbued with the faith that "Heaven Will Protect the Working Girl," she found herself in a huge department store in which proprietor she recognized Slim Pettigrew, formerly a small town genius with metropolitan aspirations.

"Slim, are you New York feeling the same as your Skineatles feeling?" she asks, and straightway takes a strangle-

hold on the Pettigrew millions. With an ocean yacht and the broadcloth suit with a silver coat, Tillie then starts to pay up for the long weary years of Skineatles drudgery, and she does it to a turn in scenes which take the audience in flying jumps from New York to Paris, and finally back again by Harvey Tinkler's airship.

The New York scenes are made the opportunities for some clever work by J. Clarence Harvey, in the crowd of Harvey Tinkler's airship, the crowd of the crowd, and for graceful and unique dancing, by Miss Aleta Bridges, Pettigrew's ocean-going yacht, Miss Octavia Broske, in the part of Maud Blobs, the sister of the rehabilitated slave, charmed the audience with a voice of exceptional clarity, and her song, "Life Is What You Make It," made near the musical hit of the show, than anything else.

Of course, everybody who has ever seen Marie Dressler knows that infection of her smile, and her characteristic droolery. She makes the part of Tillie Blobs in opportunity for some clever character work, entirely outside of the lines of the show.

She started the crowd in their series of laughs at the beginning of the show when she played her own accompaniment and sang "Heaven Will Protect the Working Girl," and her song, "I'm Tight," is one of the best imitations of a champagne illumination that has been seen here. Miss Dressler made repeated hits in her imitations incident to her song. "What I Could Do On the Stage."

"I love every bone in your head," said Tillie Blobs to the unappreciated inventor, and the crowd of the crowd, last night felt just that way about the droll, blundering lovable Tillie, a boarding-house drudge.

## COLLEGE MEN MAKE FRIENDS CAPITAL

Pleasing Performance Given by "Pennsy" Mask and Wig Club.

It is said that college folk fraternize wherever they meet. This was demonstrated last night, at the performance of the Mask and Wig Club, of the University of Pennsylvania, at the Blumhiser Theater, in "The Desert of Mahomet." It was an audience such as only Washington can show, which quickly made friends with the undergraduate performers.

Musical comedy mechanics with college students as the motive power, have proved a happy combination in theatricals. The entertainment given by the Pennsylvania club was no exception to the rule, and in many respects had distinct merits of its own.

After one became accustomed to the lower score being carried in heavy bass and lighter tenor of the chorus "ladies," one was forced to admiration of their work. It is a question whether any other Washington audience this season has witnessed such dancing as was performed by the college men. With a grace that was surprising, the most delicate steps and intricate evolutions were executed. There was a spontaneity, a freshness, a vigor, and above all teamwork, about the chorus that was most pleasing. Frequent applause recognition, where it was most deserved.

In Two Scenes.

Two scenes, one an Arabian desert, and the other the garden of the American consulate, afforded sufficient opportunity for the elaborate setting and unique costumes.

Of course, the story is inconsequential. Unfortunately, much of the same is true of the lines of the book. It seemed as if no attempt had been made to make any other use of dialogue than to give the chorus a breathing spell, without regard for the audience.

In the second part what had been a broken road of songs and choruses was relieved by the interpolation of specialties. Of these, the parody of the Philadelphia car strike was both the most timely and laughable. Imitations of social conversation by E. Rogers and J. H. McFadden, Jr., were also cleverly done.

Glee Choruses.

Of the music, the most distinctive was the glee choruses of thirty voices. With the clearness of tone and harmony typical of college clubs, three selections were given which stood out sharply. The voices of the principals were slightly disappointing.

O. B. Kiewewetter, as the learned Professor; D. H. Smith, as the Consul; J. H. McFadden, as Count Pual, and E. H. Rogers, as Henry Hutton, all acquitted themselves most creditably.

Among the "women" of the cast, R. C. Schmidt, as Lucille, looked very attractive as a divorcee; Harrison Townsend, as Mammie, the impossible child, did excellent work, while the work of W. D. Stein, as Mrs. Biddicombe, showed real ability as an actor.

If any doubt had remained in the mind of his services as a comedian, a lion being bona fide college sport, the cobra-like contortions of the cheer leader and the crack of the university yell, which closed the performance, would have been convincing.

**"BUFFALO BILL" GOES UPON PENSION ROLL**

William F. Cody Will Receive Yearly Income of \$144 From United States Government.

"Buffalo Bill" today is a pensioner of the United States, and draws from the Government \$12 a month in recognition of his services as a private soldier in the Union army during the civil war.

Enlisting in Company H, of the Seventh Kansas Cavalry February 19, 1864, he served until September 29, 1865, when he was honorably discharged, he then being nineteen years old.

After the war William F. Cody, as the pension office records have his name, gained an enviable reputation as an Indian scout and interpreter, serving as such until the final pacification of the red man.

Application for pension was made December 10, 1909, but was not granted until February 10 last. Colonel Steiwer, who was then in command of the date upon which the application was filed.

**HURT BY LOADED CIGARETTE**

CHESTER, Pa., April 18.—Atwood cigarettes were sent by mail, eyes by powder from a joker's "loaded" cigarette, and it is feared he will lose the sight of both eyes.

**TALK ABOUT FEET**

Troublesome Skin Affections Put to Rout by Postum.

A recent exchange of experience between ten persons developed the fact that nine of them were suffering from foot trouble which caused continual annoyance and serious concern. According to those who know the best thing to do when the feet are tired, inflamed, itching, chafed or broken out is to apply a little postum and note how quickly the difficulty will vanish.

Postum is the new skin remedy which so rapidly combats the worst cases of eczema and all skin troubles, stopping all itching with the first application. It makes quick work of acne, herpes, tetter, scaly scalp, barber's and every other form of skin trouble. Occasional applications in small quantities will quickly banish pimples, hives, blotches, etc., etc. A special 50c package of postum is prepared for those who use postum for minor skin troubles. Grape-Nuts will be the regular dollar jar, is on sale at O'Connell's, The People's Drug Stores and Admick's, as well as all drug stores.

But no one is even asked to purchase postum without first obtaining a sample in the form of a letter sent by mail, free of charge upon request, by the Emergency Laboratories, 32 West Twenty-fifth street New York City.

**SPECIAL**

This All-iron Swing Complete with Canopy, \$9.90

HOEKE, - 8th and Pa. Ave.

## HAMMERSTEIN 'MEAN,' ROUTS MARY GARDEN

Says Impresario Must Apologize Before She Will Sing for Him.

PARIS, April 18.—In an interview, Miss Mary Garden says that she will not sing at the Manhattan Opera House again unless Oscar Hammerstein apologizes to her for his treatment of her during the past season.

"He showed himself too mean and I told him so," said the singer. "His argument was that having paid me in dollars instead of francs I ought to refund the difference. A matter of a few paltry dollars is the real reason for the rupture. The hint in the Parisian papers that there is a woman in the case is pure fiction. I suppose the papers say this because the charming Frenchmen cannot conceive of a dispute for any other reason."

"I shall be sorry to leave America," Miss Garden went on, "but after all I think it the best policy to keep away and be desired. I shall stay a year in Paris and then go to Vienna for another year. Nothing has been definitely settled so far. Mr. Hammerstein will be here shortly and I dare say he will surrender."

Besides "Salome," Miss Garden will sing here in "Mona Vanna," which she admires, although she believes it would not do in America.

Miss Garden will sing the fourth act of "Romeo and Juliet" at the reception to Colonel Roosevelt at the Elisee Palace. Miss Garden had charming things to say of Lina Cavalieri's art, but is skeptical in regard to her talk of marriage to Robert Winthrop Chanler.

**WOMAN IS RESCUED BY JACK JOHNSON**

Finds Her Imprisoned Under Overturned Automobile With Broken Arm.

CHICAGO, April 18.—A man and a woman were ploned for more than a half hour under a big red touring car, which was overturned in trying to dodge a machine carrying joy riders and traveling at high speed in Jackson Park, just off Sixty-third street, early today.

Jack Johnson, the negro prize fighter, was the first person to reach the overturned machine. He was in his own automobile, driving through the park, and saw the big red car go over. He jumped out, assisting one of the men who had been in the wrecked machine in an effort to lift it.

The overturned machine was not lifted until a fire department hook and ladder truck arrived on the scene.

The young woman's arm was broken. Johnson took the injured woman in his car to the Washington Park Hospital.

**How to Remove Freckles FREE**

The Only Remedy Ever Discovered That Actually Removes Freckles and Skin Diseases.

A Liberal Package FREE To Prove It. All the ordinary "freckle lotions," all the face bleaches, all the face creams of a cold cream" nature, all the "rub-in, rub-out again" massage preparations ever put on a drugist's shelves have not cured freckles or facial blemishes, and fading complexions.

We want you to prove this without your risking one penny. The best way to prove it is to go to the nearest drug store and purchase a 50c jar under our absolute guarantee of satisfaction. But if you do not wish to do this just send your name and address and that of your druggist to the G. C. Bittner Co., Dept. 18, Toledo, Ohio, at once, and a treatment of the beauty doctors' great remedy will be sent you free by return mail. You cannot afford to go another day without this treatment which is the only perfect and unfailing skin and complexion beautifier.

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Let us send for the clock and repair it. We make a specialty of clock repairing. The work will be done skillfully and promptly. Phone us at once.

**SCHMIDTIE BROS.,**

704 Seventh St.

## POSTERS TELL STORY TO WASHINGTONIANS

Barnum & Bailey's circus is booked for Washington May 9 and 10. The advertising car of the show arrived here today with thirty-five men on board.

This force has been busy decorating the billboards with posters of the lady bareback rider, the clowns, and the wild animals.

The Barnum and Bailey show is now playing at Madison Square Garden in New York. According to the advertising man, an almost new circus program filled with acts entirely new to this country, together with several new sensations and the usual thriller will be shown.

One of the new acts is that of Jupiter, a balloon horse who ascends to the dome of the circus tent in a balloon and stands like a statue on a small platform at this dizzy height, while a shower of fireworks are exploded about him.

What is designated as a hair-raising act is that of Desperado, a young Frenchman, who leaps from the highest point in the circus tent and alights upon a small curved skill placed on the ground, over eighty feet below.

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**SCHMIDTIE BROS.,**

704 Seventh St.

## ALARM IS UNDOING OF CHICKEN THIEF

Connecticut Man Wires Hen House and Catches His Neighbor.

MIDDLETOWN, Conn., April 18.—After months of frequent stealing of his chickens, Henry I. Nettleton, a farmer, near Durham, rigged in his hen house an electric alarm, that would inform him of the opening of the henhouse door. At 2 o'clock this morning the alarm rang. Donning rubber boots and an overcoat he rushed out and found a man with a bag at the henhouse.

The men grappled. In the tussle Nettleton was hurt, but he overcame his opponent. Mrs. Nettleton brought a lantern by the light of which the couple saw they recognized Frederick Hall, a well-to-do neighbor.

Hall did not appear this morning, and Nettleton got a warrant for his arrest on a theft charge.



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**Bulletin**

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Dr. H. S. Hursh, 906 F St. N. W. Over O'Donnell's Drug Store.